

McBride-Ratcliff
and Associates, Inc.

Geotechnical Consultants
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February 26, 1986
MRA File No: 85-317

City of Houston
Public Works Department
Wastewater Division
P.O. Box 1562
Houston, Texas 77251

ATTENTION: Mr. Lorenzo Alonzo
Assistant Manager

SUBJECT: Request for Wastewater Discharge Permit
South Cavalcade Site
Houston, Texas

Dear Mr. Alonzo:

As a followup to our meeting on February 25, 1986, we are seeking approval for a temporary wastewater discharge at the South Cavalcade Site, located near 2000 Cavalcade Street.

McBride-Ratcliff and Associates (MRA) is currently conducting a site investigation for the Koppers Company under the direction of the Region VI office of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The site was previously used for wood preserving operations until 1964. Currently, most of the site is developed and is used by four trucking firms.

During the course of our investigation, we will generate approximately 20,000 to 30,000 gallons of wastewater, typically from the following sources: equipment cleaning, boot and hand washing, and groundwater sampling. All wastewater is presently collected and temporarily stored in an 8,000 gallon holding tank located onsite. We propose to periodically discharge the wastewater at an onsite sanitary sewer cleanout. We anticipate that wastewater discharges will extend over a period of about 6 months.

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As a condition to our permit request, we will sample and analyze the wastewater for the following constituents.

1. Priority pollutant base/neutral organics (including 2,3,7,8 TCDD).
2. Priority pollutant acid organics (including phenols).
3. Priority pollutant volatile organics (including acrolein and acrylonitrile).
4. Thirteen priority pollutant metals.
5. Priority pollutant pesticides and PCBs.
6. Boron, manganese, and barium.
7. Cyanide.
8. pH.
9. Oil and grease.
10. Sulfides.

The analyses will be conducted by the Spectrix Corporation.

We propose to segregate wash waters from groundwater. Therefore, we anticipate that two samples will be obtained to characterize the two waste streams. Sampling will occur after the tank is about one-half full to permit sufficient time to complete the analysis. Because the compounds associated with wood preserving operations typically have high specific gravities, we will sample from the bottom of the tank.

Our proposal for a wastewater discharge permit is similar to a previous request made for the same site approved about 3 years ago. I will contact you next week to discuss this letter in further detail, and to answer any additional questions that you may have.

Sincerely,

McBRIDE-RATCLIFF AND ASSOCIATES, INC.

William R. Tobin

William R. Tobin, P.E.
Project Manager

WRT:krr

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